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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 91

November, 1921

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

- C. E. Smith, Scientific Assistant, in charge of the Baton Rouge, La., station, reports under date of November 22 that an infestation of the sweet-potato weevil at Blanchard, Caddo Parish, La., has recently been discovered. This is a new infestation which has been definitely traced to slips grown at Longview, Tex., and is an excellent example of one of the most serious methods of dispersal of the sweet-potato weevil. Some growers in Texas, finding their crops unmarketable as vegetables through serious injury by the sweet-potato weevil, have developed the method of growing slips from the infested tubers and marketing their crops in this manner. The danger is obvious and every step should be taken to guard against this manner of distribution. Another infestation at Welsh, Jefferson Davis Parish, La., has been reported. This parish has not been previously known to be infested.
- C. E. Smith reports that a fire in the experiment station buildings on November 2 destroyed the building in which he and T. H. Jones, Entomologist to the Louisiana Experimental Station, were quartered, together with all notes, photographs, specimens, and scientific libraries belonging to both. Practically nothing was saved from the flames. Their notes and specimens covered a period of several years' work with truck-crop insects, both in Louisiana and in other portions of the United States, and constitute an irreparable loss.
- N. F. Howard, specialist in charge of research work, Mexican bean beetle investigations, reports that two inspectors working under his direction on the hibernation of the bean beetle in the vicinity of Birmingham, Ala., recently discovered large numbers of this pest hibernating together in a manner heretofore unconfirmed, but to be expected in view of the habits of other coccinellids. Whether any economic significance may be attached to this habit is a matter of speculation. It may, however, indicate a vulnerable point in the life history of the pest.
- J. D. Waugh, formerly temporary field assistant in Mexican bean beetle control, has accepted appointment as plant quarantine inspector with the Federal Horticultural Board.
- F. R. White, plant quarantine inspector, has been transferred from Mexican bean beetle investigations to sweet-potato weevil investigations and assigned to duty at Gulfport, Miss.

FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

- A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge
- A. D. Borden, who has been in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Alhambra,

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TROUBLE THEREST INVESTIGATIONS

T. E Chilimaden, Schowolegist in Charge

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F. R. White, plant quirentine inspector, has been transferred from Mixtone a best in the contractions and maximum to a secured weavel investigations and maximum to

PRUIT INCRE'T INVESTIGATIONS

Calif., and engaged in citrus fruit insect investigations, has resigned from the Bureau to accept the position of entomologist and manager of a local insecticide company. The laboratory at Alhambra has therefore been closed.

John B. Gill, who has been in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Brownwood, Tex., and engaged in pecan insect investigations has been transferred to Aberdeen, N. C., where careful investigations will be made of the plum curculio and other peach insects in that region.

A. I. Fabis will have charge of the pecan insect laboratory at Brownwood, Tex.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomologist Acting in Charge

- Dr. W. D. Hunter accompanied by B. R. Coad and others made a trip to the Laguna District of Mexico during the latter part of October and the first part of November in connection with research work on the pink bollworm which is being carried on in that region. Following this trip Dr. Hunter visited Washington, D. C., later returning to his headquarters at Houston, Texas.
- H. M. Brundrett, who has been engaged in ox-warble work at Herkimer, N. Y., stopped in Washington on his way to Dallas, Tex., where he is to work on this insect during the winter.
- O. G. Babcock is on an extended trip through the Pacific Coast States investigating insects injurious to sheep and goats.

BEE CULTURE

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge.

George H. Rea has resigned, to take effect December 1, from the work as extension specialist in apiculture for New York to take a similar position with the State of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg. He is still retained as collaborator with the office of Bee-Culture Investigations.

Edward S. Prevost also resigned November 1 from the Bee-Culture staff but continues his teaching and extension work at Clemson College, South Carolina, under State appointment and as collaborator with the office of Bee-Culture Investigations.

E. F. Phillips left Washington on November 17 to conduct a series of short courses in bee-culture at Fort Collins and Grand Junction, Colo., and at Los Angeles and Berkeley, Calif. He will return December 22.

- A. E. Lundie, entomologist from South Africa, is visiting this country and is, at present, doing some research work at the Bee-Culture Laboratory supplementing the work in beekeeping which he is carrying on at Cornell University.
- Dr. L. O. Howard delivered the inaugural lecture of the season before the Royal Canadian Institute, Toronto, Ontario, on October 29. His subject was "Some Aspects of Economic Entomology."

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